

Texas Department of Transportation

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 465-7611

March 22, 2000

Registration and Title Bulletin # 24-00

To: All County Tax Assessor-Collectors
Subject: Texas Citrus Industry License Plates

PURPOSE

To provide information regarding the new Texas Citrus Industry special license plate, which will become available to the public by April 1, 2000.

DETAILS

During the 76th Legislative Session, Senate Bill 754 authorized creation of a new special license plate honoring the Texas citrus industry. However, House Bill 2461, passed during the same session, stipulated that manufacturing requests for special license plates authorized after January 1, 1999, would have to be accompanied by 3,500 pre-paid applications or a \$15,000 deposit. Texas citrus industry has satisfied this requirement, thus initiating the implementation of this special license plate. The plate features a Texas Red Grapefruit and has the legend "State Fruit of Texas" across the bottom of the plate (see attached).

NEW ACTION


The Texas Citrus Industry license plate, which will be referred to as the Texas Red Grapefruit special license plate, is available to passenger cars and light trucks for a \$30.00 annual fee, or \$70 if personalized plates are requested. These fees are in addition to the regular annual registration fee. Of the \$30 special plate fee, \$25 is deposited to the credit of an account in the general revenue fund that may be appropriated only to Texas A&M University—Kingsville to provide financial assistance to graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. The remainder of the fee may be used only by the department to defray the cost of manufacturing and administering the plate. There are no special requirements for plate ownership, so application procedures will be similar to those for personalized license plates.

Attached are the appropriate pages for the Registration Manual and a copy of VTR-412, Application for the Texas Red Grapefruit License Plates. Pads of these forms will be distributed as soon as they are printed, but in the meantime, the attached form can be photocopied for distribution to customers.

VTR CONTACT PERSONS

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your local TxDOT Vehicle Titles and Registration Division Regional Office or the Customer Help Desk at (512) 465-7611. Thank you.

Sincerely,


for Jerry L. Dike, Director
Vehicle Titles and
Registration Division

Attachments

AN ACT

1 relating to the issuance of special license plates in honor of the
2 citrus industry in Texas.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 502, Transportation Code,
5 is amended by adding Section 502.299 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 502.299. TEXAS CITRUS INDUSTRY. (a) The department
7 shall issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars
8 and light trucks in honor of the citrus industry in this state.

9 (b) The department shall issue license plates under this
10 section to a person who:

11 (1) applies to the county assessor-collector of the
12 county in which the person resides on a form provided by the
13 department; and

14 (2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee
15 prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige
16 license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by
17 Section 502.251.

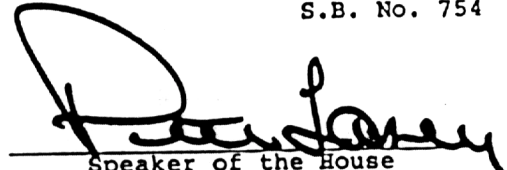
18 (c) Of each fee collected under this section, the department
19 shall deposit \$25 to the credit of an account in the general
20 revenue fund that may be appropriated only to Texas A&M
21 University--Kingsville to provide financial assistance to graduate
22 students in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. The
23 remainder of the fee may be used only by the department to defray
24 the cost of administering this section.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1999.

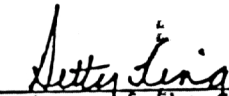
2 SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the
3 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
4 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
5 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
6 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

S.B. No. 754


President of the Senate


Speaker of the House

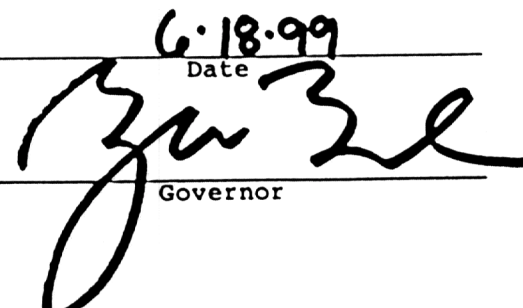
I hereby certify that S.B. No. 754 passed the Senate on April 8, 1999, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 28, 1999, by a viva-voce vote.

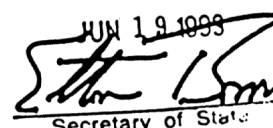

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 754 passed the House, with amendment, on May 25, 1999, by a non-record vote.


Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:


Date 6-18-99
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
6:30 pm O'CLOCK
JUN 19 1999

Secretary of State

Sec. 502.299. Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates

(a) *The department shall issue specially designed Texas Young Lawyers Association license plates for passenger cars and light trucks.*

(b) *The license plates must bear the words "And Justice For All" and be of a color, quality, and design approved by the Texas Young Lawyers Association in consultation with the department.*

(c) *The department shall issue license plates under this section to a person who:*

(1) applies to the county assessor-collector of the county in which the person resides on a form provided by the department; and

(2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161 and, if personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

(c) *Of each fee collected under this section, the department shall deposit \$25 to the credit of the basic civil legal services account established under Section 51.903, Government Code, as added by Chapter 699, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997. The remainder of the fee may be used only by the department to defray the cost of administering this section*

(d) *If the owner of a vehicle registered under this section disposes of the vehicle during the registration year, the owner shall return the special license plates to the department.*

- I. The department makes available to owners of qualified vehicles Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates for a fee of \$30 in addition to the regular registration fees. Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates are multi-year staggered plates which are issued for a 12-month registration period. Except as provided in paragraph B, the expiration date will be determined by the month in which the application is received and processed. Each application for Texas Young Lawyers Association Plates, Form VTR-229, together with the \$30 fee, or \$70 fee if personalized, shall be mailed to the department.
 - A. Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates will be issued to passenger cars and light trucks having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of one ton or less.
 - B. Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates may be issued with a personalized license number. The application for Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates, Form VTR-229, has been designed with a space to specify that Personalized Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates are desired.
 - C. The personalized license number will be issued in accordance with the procedures for personalized plates, Transportation Code §502.251. The fee for Personalized Texas Young Lawyers Association Plates is \$70.
- II. Proof of financial responsibility must be submitted to the tax assessor-collector when Texas Young Lawyers Association License Plates are issued.

Sec. 502.299. Texas Citrus Industry License Plates

FILE NOTE: There are two (2) sections of the Transportation Code numbered 502.299.

(a) *The department shall issue specially designed license plates for passenger cars and light trucks in honor of the citrus industry in this state.*

(b) *The department shall issue license plates under this section to a person who:*

(1) applies to the county assessor-collector of the county in which the person resides on a form provided by the department; and

(2) pays an annual fee of \$30, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.161, and, if personalized prestige license plates are issued, in addition to the fee prescribed by Section 502.251.

(c) *Of each fee collected under this section, the department shall deposit \$25 to the credit of an account in the general revenue fund that may be appropriated only to Texas A&M University - Kingsville to [provide financial assistance to graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. The remainder of the fee may be used only by the department to defray the cost of administering this section.*

- I. The department makes available to owners of qualified vehicles Texas Citrus Industry License Plates for a fee of \$30 in addition to the regular registration fees. Texas Citrus Industry License Plates are multi-year staggered plates, which are issued for a 12-month registration period. Except as provided in paragraph B, the expiration date will be determined by the month in which the application is received and processed. Each application for Texas Citrus Industry License Plates, Form VTR-412, together with the \$30 fee, or \$70 fee if personalized, shall be mailed to the department.
- II. There is no limit to the number of passenger cars and light commercial motor vehicles for which the person may apply for the issuance of license plates under this section.
- III. Proof of financial responsibility must be submitted to the tax assessor-collector when Texas Citrus Industry License Plates are issued.
- IV. If the owner of a vehicle for which license plates were issued under this section disposes of the vehicle during a registration year, the person may keep their license plates.
- V. If the license plates issued under this section are lost, stolen, or mutilated, the owner of the vehicle for which the license plates were issued may obtain replacement license plates from the department by paying a replacement fee of \$5.30.
 - A. Texas Citrus Industry License Plates will be issued to passenger cars and light trucks having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of one ton or less.
 - B. Texas Citrus Industry License Plates shall be issued in accordance with the procedures set forth for issuance of Personalized License Plates (refer to Section 502.251).
 - C. Texas Citrus Industry License Plates may be issued with a personalized license number displayed thereon. The application, Form VTR-412, has been designed with a space to specify that Personalized Texas Citrus Industry License Plates are desired. The fee for Personalized Texas Citrus Industry License Plates is \$70 per year (\$30 Texas Citrus Industry License Plate fee and \$40 Personalized License Plate fee).

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SUBCHAPTER G. TEMPORARY REGISTRATION

Sec. 502.351. Farm Vehicles: Excess Weight.

(a) The owner of a registered commercial motor vehicle, truck-tractor, trailer, or semitrailer may obtain a short-term permit to haul loads of a weight more than that for which the vehicle is registered by paying an additional fee before the additional weight is hauled to transport:

(1) the person's own seasonal agricultural products to market or another point for sale or processing;

(2) seasonal laborers from their place of residence to a farm or ranch; or

(3) materials, tools, equipment, or supplies, without charge, from the place of purchase or storage to a farm or ranch exclusively for use on the farm or ranch.

(b) A permit may not be issued under this section for a period that is less than one month or that:

(1) is greater than one year; or

(2) extends beyond the expiration of the registration year for the vehicle.

(c) A permit issued under this section for a quarter must be for a calendar quarter.

(d) The fee for a permit under this section is a percentage of the difference between the registration fee otherwise prescribed by this chapter for the vehicle and the annual fee for the desired weight, as follows:

<i>One month (30 consecutive days)</i>	<i>10 percent</i>
<i>One quarter</i>	<i>30 percent</i>
<i>Two quarters</i>	<i>60 percent</i>
<i>Three quarters</i>	<i>90 percent</i>

(e) The department shall design, prescribe, and furnish a sticker, plate, or other means of indicating the additional weight and the registration period for each vehicle registered under this section.

Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

- I. The owner of a truck, truck tractor, trailer or semitrailer may purchase temporary additional weight for the purpose of transporting his own seasonal agricultural products to market or to other points for sale or processing. In addition, such vehicles may be used for the transportation of seasonal laborers from their place of residence and materials, tools, equipment and supplies, without charge, from the place of purchase or storage to a farm or ranch exclusively for use on such farm or ranch.
- A. The temporary additional weight permit is not restricted to farmers or ranchers raising their own products, but all persons, firms, or corporations may qualify provided:
 1. They own (for registration purposes) the Texas registered vehicle.
 2. They are the actual owner of the agricultural products being transported.

*** FOR DEPT USE ONLY ***
License Plate # _____
Mo./Yr. of Exp. - Date Issued _____

APPLICATION FOR TEXAS RED GRAPEFRUIT LICENSE PLATES

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE SIDE BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM

APPLICANT IS TO COMPLETE THIS INFORMATION

Name of Owner _____ Daytime Phone (_____) _____
(As Shown on Current Registration Receipt)
Mailing Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Texas County of Residence _____

☐ TEXAS RED GRAPEFRUIT LICENSE PLATES

APPLICATION FEE: \$30.00 PER YEAR

PERSONALIZED TEXAS RED GRAPEFRUIT LICENSE PLATES

APPLICATION FEE: (\$30.00 Application Fee plus \$40.00 Personalized Fee) \$70.00 PER YEAR

Please read the instructions on the reverse side before completing your selections

1st

2nd

3rd

EACH YEAR, IN ADDITION TO THE \$30.00 LICENSE PLATE FEE OR THE \$70.00 PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATE FEE PAID TO THIS DEPARTMENT, YOU MUST PAY THE REGULAR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE AT YOUR LOCAL TAX OFFICE WHEN YOU OBTAIN YOUR LICENSE PLATES OR YOUR NEW VALIDATION STICKER.

THE MAILING OF CASH IS DISCOURAGED. Please remit payment in the form of a **CASHIER'S CHECK, MONEY ORDER, or CHECK**, payable to the Texas Department of Transportation.

FORWARD APPLICATION AND FEE TO: VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION (SPB)
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AUSTIN TX 78779-0001

Questions regarding your application should be directed to the Special Plates Branch at (512) 374-5010, Option 4.

INSTRUCTIONS

The department may issue specially designed Texas Red Grapefruit license plates to passenger cars and light commercial vehicles having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of one ton or less.

PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATE SELECTION INSTRUCTIONS

YOUR SELECTION MAY CONSIST OF:

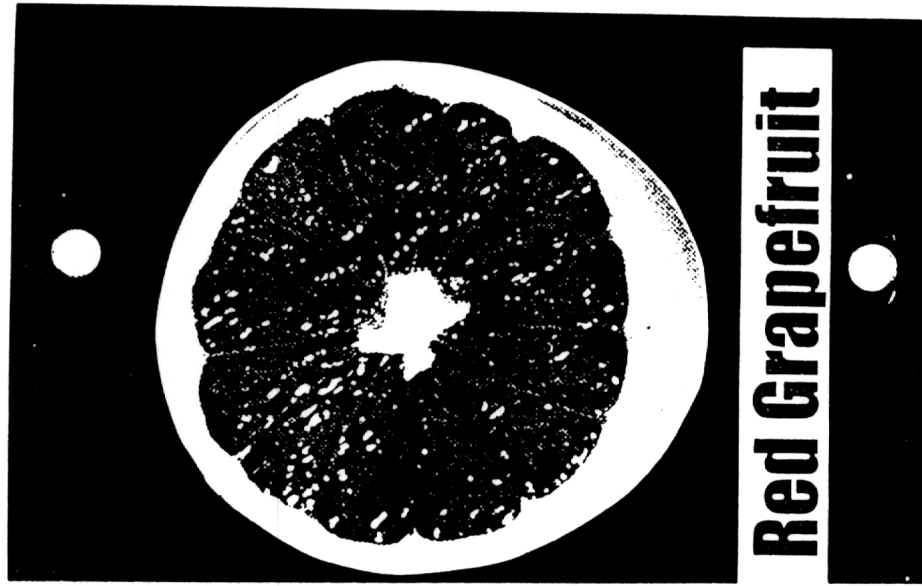
- ◆ No more than five characters, symbols, or spaces, OR three characters, symbols, or spaces and one silhouette of Texas.
- ◆ Limit of two spaces for punctuation symbols OR one silhouette of Texas.
Each square of the selection block may be used to represent one alpha or numeric character, punctuation symbol, or space. The silhouette of Texas requires two selection blocks. **Use an asterisk (*) to indicate the Texas silhouette.**
- ◆ Punctuation symbols which may be used are periods, dashes, or blank spaces.
- ◆ Selections must be shown exactly as you wish them to appear on the license plate.
- ◆ A license number which has already been issued will not be approved.

If approved, the special license plates will be manufactured and mailed to your County Tax Assessor-Collector, and you will be notified accordingly.

TO OBTAIN THE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES, you are to surrender your **current windshield validation sticker** to the County Tax Assessor-Collector. The **regular registration fee must be paid to the County Tax Assessor-Collector for the period for which the special license plates are valid**. If your vehicle is currently registered when the special license plates are issued, the vehicle registration expiration date may need to be adjusted to correspond with the expiration of the special license plates. *If necessary, additional fees will be collected, or credit will be issued, to make this adjustment.*

The Texas Red Grapefruit license plates may be transferred to another vehicle registered in the applicant's name. To transfer the plates to another vehicle, a **corrected vehicle registration** must be obtained through the county tax office. The special license plates **may not** be transferred to another owner.

PLEASE ALLOW TWO WEEKS FOR NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL.



Red Grapefruit

TEXAS

BBOLB

STATE FRUIT OF TEXAS